

December 10th, 2025

The Honorable Jessica Fitzwater
County Executive, Frederick County
Winchester Hall
12 East Church Street
Frederick, MD 21701

Dear County Executive Fitzwater:

I am writing to express my strong interest in being appointed to serve on the Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) Board of Education. As a Frederick County resident, a community leader, an engaged parent, and a public health and equity leader, I am deeply committed to advancing the priorities outlined in your transition plan and fully realizing the promise of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future for every child in our community.

I have served as a member of the FCPS Family Life Advisory Committee since 2022, where I collaborate with educators, parents, and community leaders to advise on health education, student wellness, safety, and family engagement. This role has given me direct experience with FCPS governance, curriculum review, and community-driven decision-making, while reinforcing the importance of transparency, public trust, and inclusive policy development—priorities central to your administration.

In addition, I lead the [**Immigrant Youth Behavioral Health Project**](#), a community-based initiative focused on culturally responsive behavioral and mental health access for immigrant youth and families. This work is a partnership of three non-profit organizations and a faith-based organization. The findings and implementation plan was presented to the FCPS leadership team with hopes of partnering with schools, families, healthcare providers, and faith-based organizations to address the behavioral health needs of students. This initiative directly aligns with both your transition priorities around student well-being and the Blueprint's emphasis on pillar 4 ensuring all students have access to behavioral health services, wraparound services and whole child supports.

I am a member of the community coalition of parents, students, and teachers that informs the work of the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) Blueprint Workgroup on Multilingual Learners. This coalition meets periodically with the State Superintendent, Dr. Wright and members of her team to inform the work of the workgroup.

Professionally, I bring over a decade of senior leadership experience across federal health agencies, most recently at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). My career has focused on advancing health equity, improving systems performance, strengthening community engagement, and ensuring that policies and programs are responsive to the needs of families, particularly those historically underserved. I have extensive experience overseeing complex initiatives, advising executive leadership, managing budgets, and ensuring accountability—skills directly transferable to effective school board governance, particularly as FCPS continues Blueprint implementation. My passion for education prompted me to seek out teaching opportunities where I impart knowledge to the next generation. I teach public health classes as an adjunct faculty at Hood College and Morgan State University.

These experiences have sharpened my ability to lead with data, balance multiple stakeholder interests, and advocate for practical, student-centered solutions.

If appointed, my priorities would include:

1. **Student Well-Being and Behavioral Health** – Expanding effective, trauma-informed, culturally responsive mental health supports and services that address the growing youth behavioral health crisis.
2. **Educational Equity and Access** – Supporting equitable access to high-quality instruction for racial and ethnic minority students, immigrant and multilingual learners, students with disabilities, and those experiencing poverty.
3. **Family and Community Partnership** – Deepening authentic two-way engagement with parents and communities, particularly historically marginalized families.
4. **Educator and Workforce Support** – Advancing recruitment, retention, and professional development of teachers and staff in alignment with the Blueprint's educator pipeline.
5. **Fiscal Responsibility and Accountability** – Ensuring transparent, community-informed, data-driven and heart-led decision-making with proper stewardship of public funds during Blueprint implementation.

In addition to my professional work, I remain deeply engaged locally through **parent advocacy, school partnerships, equity response efforts, youth and family behavioral health initiatives, and cross-sector collaboration**. I bring lived experience as a parent navigating FCPS, an immigrant community leader helping other immigrant parents navigate the system, and systems-level expertise in policy, and governance. I offer a collaborative leadership style, strong analytical and governance skills, and a steadfast commitment to public service. I would be honored to serve on the Board.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration. I welcome the opportunity to discuss my candidacy further.

Sincerely,

Yewande A. Oladeinde, PhD

